AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1.-2.   (Canceled)

3.   (Currently amended) A method of allowing access to data over a distributed data processing system, comprising:

providing an automated infrastructure for the exchange of information between multiple parties;

providing a trusted server with at least one data warehouse for a storage of said information, wherein the trusted server ~~including~~ includes a processor;

associating a price rule with particular data records of said information which establishes a cost of accessing said particular data records, and which controls the access to the data;

wherein said price rule enables a data owner associated with said data to specify a different price for different types and amounts of information access;

within said trusted server, providing a data processing platform which is accessible to multiple third-party data processing software programs which operate as software agents;

wherein a plurality of seller-side software agents have defined relationships to said price rules and associated data records, and maintain absolute access control to said associated data records;

wherein a plurality of buyer-side software agents have regulated query access to said data processing platform and request pricing information from said seller-side software agents;

wherein said plurality of seller-side software agents and the plurality of buyer-side software agents operate as persistent data processing systems which interact with one another repeatedly over time and which thus define a virtual marketplace.

4.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein said trusted server is accessed via a network.

5.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 wherein said network is a wireless network.

6.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 wherein said network is a cellular network.

7.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 wherein said network is the Internet.

8.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein said software agents are associated with at least one individual.

9.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein said software agents are associated with at least one company.

10.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the cost of accessing said particular data records is a price that said buyer-side software agents have to pay before accessing said particular data records.

11.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein said information access is encrypted through use of a security certificate.

12.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein said security certificate is managed by a public key infrastructure.